

# Section 508

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# Section 508 - Employees

Section 508 requires that when Federal agencies develop, procure, maintain, or use electronic and information technology (EIT), Federal employees with disabilities have access to and use of information and data that is comparable to the access and use by Federal employees who are not individuals with disabilities, unless an undue burden would be imposed on the agency.

# Section 508 - Public

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Section 508 also requires that individuals with disabilities, who are members of the public seeking information or services from a Federal agency, have access to and use of information and data that is comparable to that provided to the public who are not individuals with disabilities, unless an undue burden would be imposed on the agency.



# The Definition of EIT

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Electronic and Information Technology is any equipment or interconnected system or subsystems of equipment that is used in the creation, conversion, or duplication of data or information, or used in the automatic acquisition, storage, manipulation, management, movement, control, display, switching, interchange, transmission or reception of data or information.

# Some Examples of EIT Goods and Services

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For TIPSS-2 Task Orders, you may find the following examples:

- Websites
- Multimedia Presentations
- User Interfaces to Software
- Documentation
- Helpdesk Support

# What's Not Included?

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EIT acquired by the Contractor that is incidental to the performance of the Task Order that won't be accessed by Federal Employees or members of the public.

# Compliance Questions & Forms

- Is it applicable?

Determination & Findings for Purchase Requests

- Is it available?

EIT Commercial Non-Availability Certification

- Is it impossible?

EIT Undue Burden Exception Determination & Certification



# D&F for Purchase Requests

- Sec. 1 - Do I have a need that potentially relates to information technology (IT) as a procurement deliverable?
- Sec 2: Do I have an EIT procurement requirement in my purchase request?



# D&F for Purchase Requests cont.

- Sec 3: Is it an EIT Exception?
- Sec 4: Are any of the Access Board's technical provisions (36 CFR Subpart 1194.21-41) applicable to the purchase request?

# D&F for Purchase Requests cont.

- Sec 5: Can my agency acquire the compliant product I need from the commercial marketplace?
- Sec 6: Will a commercial or non-commercial product meeting applicable Access Board technical provisions be produced in response to my solicitation?

# D&F for Purchase Requests cont.

- Sec 7: Is my requirement that is less than fully compliant with Sec. 508 a commercial item by FAR definition?

**Complete an EIT Commercial  
Non-Availability Certification**

**(Slide 13)**



# D&F for Purchase Requests cont.

- Sec 8: Will my agency NOT acquire the available commercial product that best meets both the applicable Access Board technical provisions and the agency min. needs because this EIT would impose a significant difficulty or expense on the program or component for which the EIT is acquired?

**Complete an EIT Undue Burden Exception  
Determination & Certification**

**(Slides 14 – 16)**

# EIT Commercial Non-Availability Certification (Rev 8/2/01)

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- What were your findings?
- What methodology did you use?
- What sources did you investigate?

# EIT Undue Burden Exception D&C (Rev 8/2/01)

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The data and findings providing the basis for my decision are the following:

1. Products or services required to meet the agency's needs.
2. Dollar value of the acquisition, including any options.
3. Applicable Section 508 standards that are unmet (see CFR pt. 1194).



# EIT Undue Burden Exception cont.

4. Market research performed to locate commercial items that meet the applicable standards.
5. The undue burden:
  - Significant difficulty of compliance.
  - Significant expense of compliance.
  - Insufficient agency resources available to the agency's program or component for which the goods or services is being acquired.

# EIT Undue Burden Exception cont.

6. Alternative means of access that will be provided that will allow the individuals with disabilities to use the information data.

# What are some Sec. 508 resources?

- IRS guidance info @ <http://acprocurement.irs.gov/policy/section508.htm>
- Treasury Office of Procurement Section 508 Web page @ [www.treas.gov/procurement/508](http://www.treas.gov/procurement/508)
- GSA guidance info @ [www.section508.gov](http://www.section508.gov).
- Final FAR Rule (FAC 97-27) published on 04/25/01 @ <http://www.arnet.gov/far/>
- Access Board Standards @ [www.access-board.gov/sec508/508standards.htm](http://www.access-board.gov/sec508/508standards.htm)



# What are some Sec. 508 resources? (cont)

- The IRS' Information Resources Accessibility Program (IRAP) has quality guidance, assistance, & product-testing capabilities available:

<http://irap.no.irs.gov>